

PORIRUA YOUTH 2 WORK MOVEMENT

WORKING TOGETHER TO HAVE ALL PORIRUA YOUTH ENGAGED IN EDUCATION, TRAINING OR EMPLOYMENT

Youth prep for JOBfest

Young job seekers have been busy polishing their one-page profiles in preparation for meeting future employers at JOBfest next week.

That's to make things easier for both employers and job seekers, says JOBfest organiser Jacqui Edwards.

"We've been working with local colleges and Work and Income to make sure that those coming along are well prepared and use this opportunity to put their best selves forward."

Jacqui says JOBfest is designed to help job seekers meet employers that have a genuine commitment to creating opportunities for young people.

"These employers are coming along because they think investing in young people is worthwhile. They want to help them get jobs and to create opportunities for young people."



Last year's JOBfest attendees enjoyed finding out more about a career in the New Zealand Police.

JOBfest has been set up to help address gaps in the labour market. This year 35 businesses are attending from a variety of sectors including roading, hospitality, retail and health.

"These are all employers that are willing to start out with entry-level employees and nurture them," says Jacqui.



WHEN?

Thursday 17 August
Open to the public from 1.45-2.30pm
(registered students and jobseekers attending at scheduled times)

WHERE?

Pataka Art & Museum



Left to right: AJ Wilson and Chelei Kopa from Housing New Zealand, with Jacqui Edwards from Partners Porirua and Porirua Mayor Mike Tana.

LOCAL BUSINESSES COMMIT TO YOUTH

Two new Porirua businesses have joined the growing number of organisations committed to giving Porirua young people a head start.

During July AWF and Taylor Preston signed up as partners of the Porirua Youth 2 Work Movement.

Over 50 local business leaders attended a function to celebrate the achievements of the Porirua Youth 2 Work Movement and to hear some local success stories.

The guest speaker was Megan Howard, Product Development Manager for Youth 2 Work partner Whittaker's. Megan confessed she ate chocolate for breakfast, lunch and dinner and said she had the best job in the world.

Businesses also heard from two young people who had recently entered the workforce, Eimeo Kirk from Downer and Chelei Kopa from Housing New Zealand, who both captivated the audience as shining examples of successful young employees.

Partners Porirua leads the Youth 2 Work Movement. It's Executive Director, Michelle Robinson, says Youth 2 Work is all about making the connections between local businesses that are looking for the best young staff, and the pool of talented young people in Porirua.

"It's a way of getting those young people into work and it benefits our local businesses and economy at the same time," says Ms Robinson.



For more information contact the team at:

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porirucity



TRAINING THE SECRET TO SUCCESS

Elite Services is a family run business with a focus on encouraging youth development and enabling young people to achieve their goals.

The Porirua company specialises in electrical and electronic maintenance, hydraulic and materials' handling equipment and automatic door maintenance.

Company Director Paul Kay says a high level of expertise is required in the business, so the focus is firmly on training its staff.

Tino Capazorio Wellington Service Manager says that although there is no degree or diploma available for the electronics on automatic doors, there are so many technical and safety issues involved that specialised training is a must.

"We've decided that rather than poach staff from other companies we'll bring in young kids and train them up – not as labourers but as skilled members of the team," says Paul.

Young employees TK Wineera and Blaine Apanui have been with Elite Services for a couple of years,

both having found their way to the company through Work and Income.

TK says he had just finished an electrical course when the opportunity came up to continue with his interest in electronics by working at Elite Services.

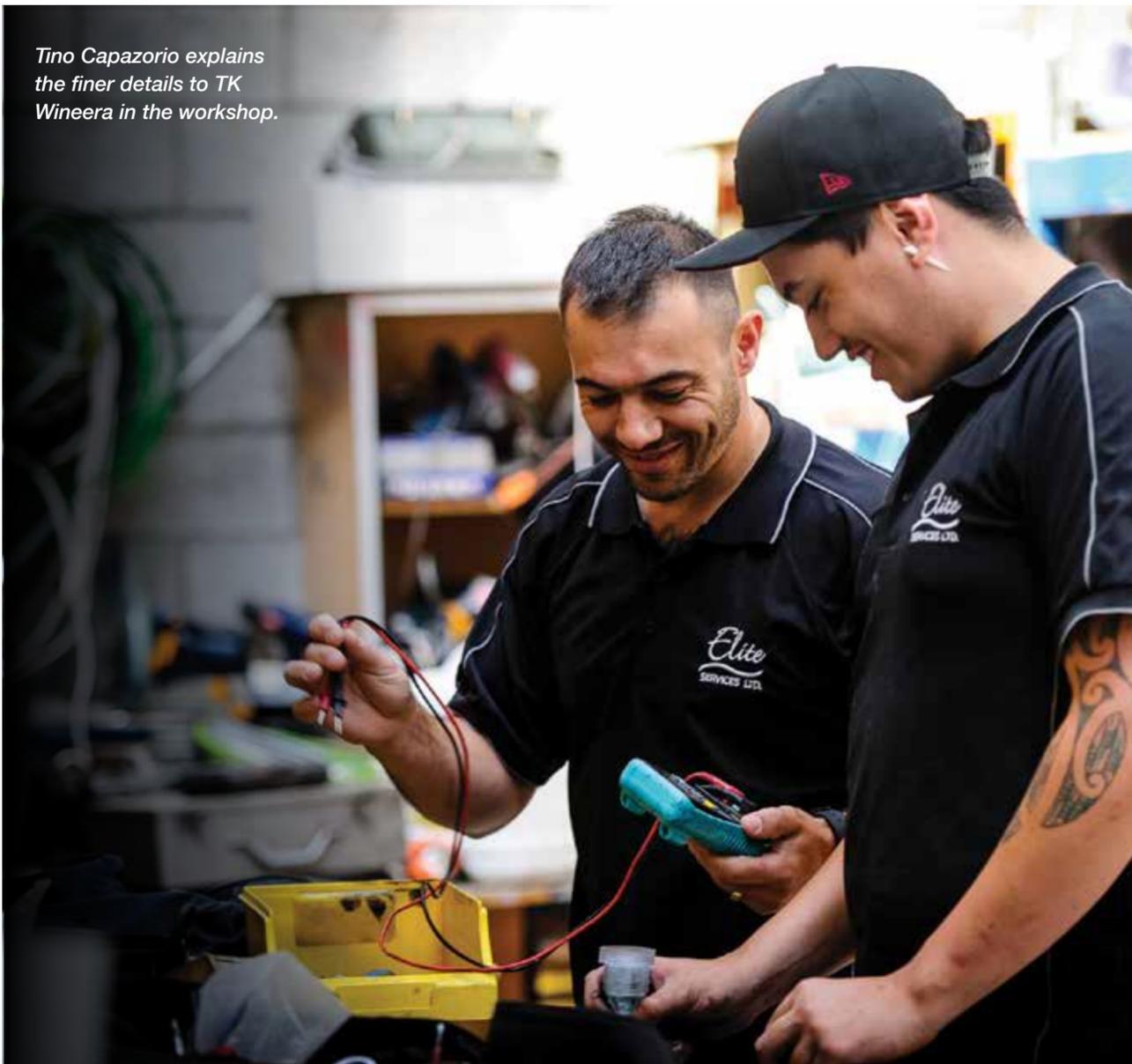
TK says he has learnt heaps during his time. "It's not just the electronics; we do a lot with hydraulics as well." TK is in a technical training and achievement programme. "This means I will have a big career ahead of me, I'm in an industry seriously lacking highly skilled, well trained technicians. Once I'm qualified I might do some travelling, the world will be open to me."

Blaine is working towards his Electrical Services Technician qualification and needs to do another couple of years' worth of hours and tests to qualify.

"I like everything about working here. We're always on different sites and no two days are the same. The guys are great to work with; they are more than happy to teach you stuff. These are definitely the best people by far I've ever worked with." says Blaine.

"We believe that by hiring these youngsters we have the ability to give back to society in the longer term. It's not just a job – we're giving them an opportunity." Paul Kay

Tino Capazorio explains the finer details to TK Wineera in the workshop.



JOBfest supporters

Without the support of a team of amazing sponsors JOBfest wouldn't take place. We'd like to thank:



"Whitireia enables young people to gain vocational knowledge and skills, make confident choices about their future, and progress successfully into employment and/or further education; providing them with an opportunity to realise their dreams."

HELEN GARDINER, DIRECTOR LEARNER JOURNEY



"Local communities are at the heart of everything we do. Downer has a strong commitment to training because we strongly believe that training young people will help to ensure we have the right mix of people in our business in the future."

GRAEME O'KEEFFE, CONSTRUCTION MANAGER



"What better way to decide your career than seeing it in action? The youth ambassador programme brings our community together, as people from all walks of life interact over their purchase or work experiences at Mitre 10 MEGA."

DARREN MILBURN, STORE MANAGER



"A lot of AWF staff who get placed with bigger employers as temps get assessed and then picked up into permanent roles which can lead to other opportunities."

ROGER CALKIN, MANAGER AWF LABOUR



"In our Career Navigator programme students are mentored into pathways beyond college giving them confidence to explore what job opportunities may suit them. At JOBfest students get to practice some of the acquired employment skills in real life situations."

FAAFOI SEIULI, CAREER NAVIGATOR CO-ORDINATOR